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January 1934, 16th February 1934, 6th May 1934, 1st September 1934, 2nd October 1934, 16th December 1934, 29th December 1934, 31st January 1935, 16th April 1935, 16th July 1935 and 9th August 1935.

District Munsifs.—27th November 1933, 16th December 1933, 17th January 1934, 26th November 1934, 3rd December 1934, 25th December 1934, 5th February 1935, 16th June 1935, 8th August 1935 and 15th September 1935.

(*c*) *District Judges.*—The two vacancies to be filled by officers of the Indian Civil Service have been kept unfilled for administrative reasons. As regards the remaining six the Public Service Commission (India) has to be consulted before permanent appointments are made in such vacancies. This inevitably takes time.

Sub-Judges and District Munsifs.—Orders regarding the confirmation of Sub-Judges had to be kept pending the issue of orders filling up the vacancy in the cadre of District and Sessions Judges.

The High Court has to issue orders regarding the confirmation of District Munsifs. These orders have apparently been held up pending the issue of orders regarding the confirmation of Sub-Judges.

Mr. P. V. Krishnayya Choudari:—"In view of the fact that by delaying the filling up of these district judges' posts, etc., the subordinate judges and munsifs are foregoing their increments and promotions, may I ask what steps the Government propose to take to avoid these difficulties to the subordinate officers?"

The Hon. Sir K. V. Reddi Nayudu:—"These delays are not intentional; they are inevitable under the system now existing."

Diwan Bahadur C. S. Ratnasabhapati Mudaliyar:—"Out of the six posts of district judges to be filled by the promotion of the Provincial Civil Service and by appointment from the Bar and other sources, how many were filled by promotion?"

The Hon. Sir K. V. Reddi Nayudu:—"I want notice, Sir."

Applications from the Depressed Classes for appointments in the Civil Courts in Tinnevelly district.

* 534 *Q.*—Mr. M. Devadasan: Will the Hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether applications were received from the members of both the Depressed Class Hindus and the Depressed Class Christians for the posts of clerks, amins or attenders in the Civil Courts of Tinnevelly district from 1930 to 1935;

(*b*) if so, how many; and

(*c*) how they were disposed of?

A.—The Government have no information.

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Mr. C. Basu Dev:—" Will the Hon. the Law Member be pleased to call for the information to know how far the judiciary, especially in Tinnevelly are encouraging the depressed classes? "

The Hon. Sir K. V. Reddi Nayudu:—" The question will be considered, Sir."

Agriculture

Notifications Nos. 370 *and* 371, *published in the Fort St. George Gazette, dated* 25*th October* 1935 in re *sugar industry.*

* 534-A *Q.*—Sir William Wright: Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether, prior to the publication, in the *Fort St. George Gazette* of October 25th, 1935, of drafts of notifications Nos. 370 and 371, Government consulted any of the commercial interests in Madras engaged in the sugar industry;

(*b*) if so, whom; and

(*c*) if not, why not?

A.—(*a*) & (*b*) No.

(*c*) The Government received their information from the Director of Agriculture, and it was assumed that he had consulted the interests concerned. The notifications have now been published with a view to inviting criticism of the figures so arrived at.

Sir William Wright:—" May I ask the Hon. Minister for Public Works whether representations have been made by various commercial interests to reduce the rates in view of the fact that the present rates will cause damage to the local sugar industry as the rates in other provinces are so much lower? "

The Hon. Mr. P. T. Rajan:—" Sir, it has since been brought to my notice by some hon. Members of this House that the rates tentatively suggested in the notification are far in excess of those fixed in other provinces and that they will further facilitate the already existing competition the sugar industry in the south has to face from the northern provinces. Also they might irretrievably damage the local sugar industry recently started in some districts at considerable capital expenditure by promoters who have not as yet received any return on their capital. I can give this assurance to hon. Members that these and other relevant matters will have the fullest consideration of Government before they finally fix the minimum prices."

Diwan Bahadur C. S. Ratnasabhapati Mudaliyar:—" May I ask whether the Government realize that the minimum rate fixed under the notification is higher than the cost at which cane is sold in the market? "

The Hon. Mr. P. T. Rajan:—" I cannot say that off-hand."

Diwan Bahadur C. S. Ratnasabhapati Mudaliyar:—" Will the Government be pleased to remove this minimum rate at least in places where there are small sugar factories whose outturn is about 50 tons? "